

WEATHER FORECAST
Forecast for Thursday and Friday:
Virginia—Fair Thursday; Friday fair
and warmer; variable winds.
North Carolina—Fair Thursday; Fri-
day probably showers; variable winds.

VOL. 17. NO. 95.

WARM FIGHT IN MADISON WARD

Proclamation Forces Finally Win Out.

WITHERS' ABLE SPEECH

Explains New Instrument Section by Section.

HE IS CHEERED THROUGHOUT

Pledges of Richmond Delegates Were All Qualified—Spirited Fight in the Convention To-Day on the Final Settlement of Main Question—Proclaimers Are Confident.

The mass-meeting of Madison Ward Democrats, held in Monticello Hall last night, declared in favor of proclaiming the new Constitution after a very able speech in explanation of the new instrument by Delegate Eugene Withers, of Danville. The result, however, was not accomplished until there had been quite a pretty little battle between the proclamation and submission forces.

The crowd, while not a very large one, seemed deeply interested, and not only cheered Mr. Withers to the echo, but showed much spirit over the adoption of the resolutions.

The meeting was under the auspices of the Madison Ward Democratic Club, and was called to order by President Thomas W. Walsh at 8:30 o'clock. A number of convention members were present, and including Democrats not residents in the ward, the audience was a fairly good-sized one. Ward Superintendent Minnie-rose Polkes presided permanently, and in a few well chosen words introduced Mr. Withers to the audience.

WAS CLEAR AND FORCEFUL.

In a clear and forceful manner the junior member from Danville took up and explained the new instrument section by section, beginning with the Bill of Rights and ending with the suffrage clause, and was often interrupted with flattering applause. He dwelt at length upon the more important subjects under consideration, and when he declared that he would have resigned his seat in the convention before he would have voted against the corporation measure, there was long, continued applause.

Mr. Withers' speech was one of the ablest heard in Madison Ward in a long time, and every voter present seemed to greatly enjoy it. When he had concluded the meeting gave him a unanimous vote of thanks on motion of Mr. J. F. Flournoy.

FOR PROCLAMATION.

As soon as Mr. Flournoy's motion was adopted Mr. Joseph C. Taylor offered the following resolution:

"Whereas, the Democratic voters of Madison Ward, in meeting to-day, are desirous of giving some declaration of their position on the question of submitting or proclaiming the new Constitution; therefore, be it

"Resolved (1), That we do hereby express our appreciation of the honorable manner in which the members of the convention have so nobly accomplished the purposes for which the convention was called.

"(2) That feeling as we do so entirely satisfied with the result of the convention, believing the new Constitution to be eminently worthy of Virginia's past and a fit instrument for the safeguard of her future, we do hereby declare it to be the sense of this meeting that the new Constitution should be proclaimed, and that we do hereby gladly release any and all members of the convention from any obligation which they may feel that they owe to us to submit the Constitution to us for ratification."

CAUSING MUCH DEBATE.
Mr. Taylor spoke briefly but in an eloquent manner for his resolution, and ex-Senator H. A. Atkinson, Messrs. George McD. Blake and Charles Milliner, opposed it, taking the ground that the meeting has no right to take such action. Mr. Atkinson talked about revolutions and other awful things that might come if the convention should vote to proclaim, and said the body would trample upon the dearest rights of the people if it did not keep its place.

There were loud cries of "vote!" "vote!" and a motion was made to adjourn. In order that none but Madison Ward Democrats might vote, the chair required that they stand, and he delegated and two newspaper men present to count. This motion to adjourn was defeated by a vote of 14 to 22, and by a vote of 20 to 16 the resolution of Mr. Taylor was adopted amid applause, and the body adjourned sine die.

Qualified All Pledges.

During the debate on the question of proclaiming the Constitution allusion has been frequently made to the anti-clerical pledges of members of the convention. Captain Wise, in his speech, appealed especially to his Richmond colleagues to vote for submission to the present electorate, on account of the promises which had been made by them. Examination of the newspaper files shows that during the canvass in Richmond, the candidates, in their reply to the question of the Central Trades and Labor Union, declared themselves in favor of submission, prefacing their reply by saying:

"We reserve absolutely the right to change any views which we may here express, if, after a fuller examination into the questions, we become satisfied that our present views are erroneous. We are aware that we are asking of the people a large trust, but we are also aware that we propose to assume a responsibility equally as large. Believing that it will be best for the people and for their representatives that the latter should go to the convention unhampered by irrevocable pledges, we desire this to be clearly understood in reference to the answers herein given."

Mr. Pollard further replied in an-

NEW BUILDING FOR RICHMOND

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 28.—Richmond will get \$125,000 for the purchase of a site for a new public building. After a very tough fight in conference, the Senate and House conferees reported the bill this morning.

There is some very interesting inside history connected with the Richmond matter that will be telling. The original House bill, it will be recalled, carried an appropriation of \$20,000 for the purchase of the Shafter property. This, of course, was inadequate. The bill then came up in the Senate and was referred to the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

Senator Martin, after obtaining information from Richmond as to the value of the property in question, offered an amendment increasing the appropriation to \$200,000, and he and Senator Daniel both appeared before the committee and urged its adoption. Senator Fairbanks, chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds would not agree to this amendment, however, on the ground of its swelling the appropriation shown on the face of the bill. Then, on the floor of the Senate, just as the bill was about to be reported, Senator Martin got him to agree to the amendment providing for condemnation proceedings. The amendment was very cleverly worded and made no mention of any increase of cost. Neither Senator Fairbanks nor the House conferees, however, were to be taken in. The bill passed the Senate with the rest of

TRANSFER OF THE CAPTAINS IN JAIL INSTEAD OF MARRIAGE ALTAR

Police Commissioners May Make Some Changes—Election Next Week.

The June meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners will prove to be a most interesting one. Twenty-four men will be up for re-election, and the question of placing Sergeant Tyler and the Second District, will come up.

Some changes will be made in the present detail of captains. It was stated yesterday by a person who is well posted on such matters, although Major Howard said last night that he knew nothing about it.

"The movement is to put Captain Tomlinson at the Third Station, Captain Hulce at headquarters, Captain Whitlock at the Second Station, and Captain Angle at the First Station."

The publication of the proposed changes yesterday afternoon was a surprise to the men and to the citizens generally. Sergeants Allen and Cousins will be re-elected. Acting Sergeants Tyler and Barfoot are nominated to succeed Sergeant Cousins, and Acting Sergeants Wyatt, Bailey and Farley are candidates to succeed Sergeant Allen in the Second.

The annual inspection of the force will be held previous to the meeting, each district going on review at the station-houses. The inspection at the First will be conducted by Commissioners Manning and Welsh; Second, Bosher and Weinbrunn; Third, Jacob and Laube; and Commissioner Weinbrunn, of Jackson Ward, who comes up for re-election at the meeting of the new Council, has a hard fight on his hands. His principal opponent is Councilman McCarthy, who is making an active canvass.

RUN OVER AND KILLED.

Conductor Robert G. Lane, Fell Under His Train.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
BLUEFIELD, W. VA., May 28.—Robert G. Lane, conductor, was run over and killed early this morning near Jug Neck, about five miles east of Vicksburg, near here. He was attempting to board his train and fell under it and his right leg was severed near the knee. He was brought to this city and died at 11:30 o'clock this morning.

He was about twenty-five years of age. His home is at Roanoke, Va., and he leaves a wife and three children. His remains were shipped to Montgomery, Va., this evening for interment.

FIGHTING BOERS.

Major Collett and His Mounted Troops Engaged for Hours.

(By Associated Press.)
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT, May 28.—Major Collett, with a detachment of the mounted troops of this district, encountered a force of Boers on the Republican road, about five miles from here, which followed for a long time; the enemy finally drawing off, leaving behind them on the field Commandant Malon, who was mortally wounded.

An armored train engaged the same party of Boers the evening of May 27th, but no details of the latter engagement are at hand.

REFUSED TO "SHAKE" AND WAS KILLED

Joseph Blount Crushed to Death by an Infuriated Elephant.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, May 28.—"Tops," a female elephant of the Forepaugh and Sells Circus, killed a man to-day at the show-grounds of the circus in Brooklyn. The victim was Joseph Blount, of Fort Wayne, Ind.

He went to the elephant's enclosure, where the animals were waiting for their breakfast and each stuck out his trunk to "shake hands" as Blount passed down in front of them, it being the custom of the trainers to salute each elephant with a gentle tap. Blount had a beer glass in his hand and when he approached "Tops" he shoved it at her instead of giving the usual greeting. This act seemed to offend the great beast. In an instant she seized the man with her trunk and after hurling him violently to the ground, knelt on him and crushed him to death. Keepers came to the rescue too late. They drove "Tops" back and removed the body.

THE BOILER OF ENGINE DEFECTIVE

This Was the Verdict of the Coroner's Jury.

THE INQUEST YESTERDAY

Several Witnesses Gave Testimony as to Accident.

FUNERAL OF MR. GWATHNEY

Great Crowd Turns Out to Pay Tribute of Respect to the Memory of the Engineer, Who Lost His Life by the Blowing Up of the Engine.

City of Manchester, to wit:

An inquisition taken at Atlantic Coast Line depot in the City of Manchester, on the 28th day of May, in the year 1902, before John W. Brodnax, coroner of the said city of Manchester, upon view of the body of Robert L. Gwathney, the jurors sworn to enquire when, how, and by what means the said Robert L. Gwathney came to his death, upon their oaths do say that we believe the said Robert L. Gwathney came to his death on the morning of the 27th of May, 1902, at about 5.12 a. m., between Hull and Bainbridge streets on the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in the city of Manchester, by the explosion of the boiler of engine No. 60 of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, and we believe from the evidence here before us that the cause of said explosion was due to a defective boiler of said engine No. 60 of A. C. L. Railroad.

J. W. PUCKETT,
N. J. WILLIAMS,
JAMES R. HOLLIDAY,
F. J. JONES,
GEORGE H. JONES,
R. D. BAILEY,
Jury.

JOHN W. BRODNAX, M. D.,
Coroner.

The verdict of the Coroner's jury at an inquest held yesterday to determine who was responsible for the explosion of engine No. 60 of the Atlantic Coast Line Tuesday morning, resulting in the instant death of Engineer Robert L. Gwathney, a well-known citizen of Man-

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CLOSE STREET FOR FACTORY

The Street Committee, at its meeting yesterday evening, did not consider or act upon the petition of the Continental Tobacco Company for permission to close West Clay Street that it may erect a large tobacco manufacturing plant, to cover two squares. The committee decided to meet at Clay and Bowe Streets at 4 o'clock this afternoon to look over the ground, after which a meeting will be held at the City Hall at 5 o'clock, when the matter will be taken up.

The communication to the Council sets forth that the company has secured options on two city squares in the western part of the city. These squares are now divided by Clay Street. The company proposes to build a plant, the main building of which will front on Bowe Street for a distance of 646 feet from Leigh Street, southward, if Clay Street is closed.

The two squares upon which the company has secured options are those north of Broad Street and Richmond College, between Lombardy and Bowe Streets, and bounded on the north and south by Leigh Street and the Richmond, Freder-

UNIQUE SERIES OF LECTURES

"Relation of Weather to Disease" Theme of Popular Discourses by Director Evans.

The Medical College of Virginia will introduce two series of lectures into the course next session, which are absolutely unique in Virginia.

One series will have to do with the relation of the weather with disease. It will be delivered by no less a person than Farmer Evans, of the Weather Bureau.

Mr. Evans will not become a member of the faculty of the college, as he is not allowed to connect himself with any institution, but he agrees to lecture on the theme given above, and physicians all assert the influence the state of the weather has upon the progress of disease.

This course will not only be helpful to doctors, but the edification will extend to the general public, as it is expected that several of the lectures will be delivered before public audiences. The other course of lectures will have to do with the examination of applicants for life insurance. Dr. H. Cabell Tabb, medical director of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia, will deliver them. He will outline for the students of the college the chief aspects of physical examinations for the purposes of life insurance companies. This series will be more technical than that of the director of the Weather Bureau, Mr. Evans.

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RANGE OF THERMOMETER.

The thermometer ranged as follows at The Times office yesterday: At 8 A. M., 58; 12 M., 60; 3 P. M., 63; 6 P. M., 66; 9 P. M., 60; 12 midnight, 54. Average, 61.5.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

CRISIS PENDING IN MINERS' STRIKE

Engineers, Firemen and Pump Men Will Join Ranks.

OPERATORS HOLD MEETING

They Continue to Swear in Special Officers for Defense.

SYMPATHETIC STRIKE LIKELY

Frank P. Sargent, Member of the National Board of Arbitration Says if Strike is Not Settled Within Eight Weeks, That Bituminous Miners Will Go Out in Sympathy.

(By Associated Press.)

WILKESBARRE, PA., May 28.—The officers of the United Mine Workers of this city held a meeting here to-day and representatives were received from conventions appointed to interview the engineers, firemen and pumpmen employed at the various collieries in this city and vicinity. These representatives, so it was stated after the meeting, showed that very few of the firemen and pumpmen were found who were unwilling to join the striking miners next Monday unless they were granted an eight-hour day. There were some engineers, who said they would not quit work, but it is claimed they are comparatively few in number.

Some coal operators and superintendents held a secret meeting at one of the coal offices to-day. It is understood there was a general discussion of the strike situation and what steps should be taken to protect the properties of the coal companies in case of trouble. The bituminous miners continue to swear in special officers.

BITUMINOUS MINERS.

They May Strike in Sympathy if Matter is Not Speedily Settled.

(By Associated Press.)
ST. LOUIS, MO., May 28.—Frank P. Sargent, member of the National Board of Arbitration, of which Senator Hanna is chairman, is in St. Louis. Mr. Sargent is of opinion that if the strike of anthracite miners shall not be settled within the next eight or ten days, the bituminous miners will probably strike in sympathy with the anthracite miners.

"The individual members of the National Board of Arbitration are using their best efforts to bring about a settlement of the strike," Mr. Sargent said to the Associated Press. "Last week the members of the board met with the operators and representatives of the United Mine Workers of America, in an effort to secure concessions from either side that would be the means of settling the strike. The operators refused to arbitrate or to concede a single point, and President Mitchell was obliged to return to the headquarters of his order with nothing to offer the miners. They accordingly struck for the advance in wages asked for."

"Up to last Monday, when I left New York, both sides were standing firm, and from the condition of things, I think the country will see a bitter contest. I was told by President Mitchell that the miners were never in better financial condition than now to enter a strike, and they are confident of winning. For some time the anthracite miners have had plenty of work and have been able to lay by money. President Mitchell is of opinion that they will be able to hold out for at least six months. "I am of opinion that if the strike shall not be settled within the next eight or ten days, miners in the bituminous fields will be asked to go out in sympathy for their eastern brethren. A cessation of bituminous miners to decide what action to take in the matter is."

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SUMMARY OF THE NEWS

FORECAST

Forecast: Thursday fair, Friday fair and warmer; variable winds.

LOCAL

Mrs. Elizabeth Redford badly hurt by falling down steps. Convention to vote to-day on proclaiming or submitting the Constitution in favor of proclaiming the new Constitution. Coroner Brodnax holds inquest upon the body of Engineer Gwathney. Interested session of the West Richmond District Conference held. May be a "shaking up" of the officers in the three police districts. Alleged escapee convict from Alabama penitentiary arrested in Henrico. Petition of Continental Tobacco Company before the Street Committee.

VIRGINIA

The Democrats of Middlesex declare in favor of proclaiming the Constitution. Congressman Jones has no opposition and will be declared the nominee. Abraham Thauber arrested for abducting the woman he wanted to wed. Fred. Baughman sentenced for 5 years in Middlesex for attempted criminal assault.

Two men drowned in Chesapeake Bay by the boat capsizing. A platform falls at the Staunton Carnival and a number of people are injured. The locomotive may go on strike in sympathy with the anthracite men unless matter is soon adjusted.

GENERAL

Senate agrees to vote on the Philippine government bill on Tuesday next. House spent the day in consideration of a bill for the college of subsidiary silver.

Professor Hill, Government geologist, makes futile effort to reach the crater of Mont Pelee. Was terrified, but consoling himself that others were as badly scared. Ohio convention, after nominating a ticket, adjourns with a demonstration over Hanna.

Stock market very dull, and the small gains made were mostly lost by profit taking before the close. Young man in Georgia asylum pulled the queue of Chinese ambassador, causing him exclaiming pain. Mrs. Julia H. Montgomery and Mr. Cooper. The latter gentleman is expected to-day, and Mr. Gudebord is already here.

NEW AUDITORIUM NOW ON THE WAY

Ways and Means Committee Appointed by Conference of Representative Men.

The conference yesterday afternoon regarding the erection and ownership of a hall or auditorium by several organizations of the city, resulted in the appointment of a Committee on Ways and Means which is to report practical suggestions on next Wednesday afternoon.

The conference was held at the office of Mr. B. F. Johnson and the following were among those present as representatives of the organizations: Mr. Johnson, Mr. A. Hoen, and Miss Williams, of the Art Club; Mr. H. T. Meloney, of the Wednesday Club; Dr. Henry C. Jones, of the Lyceum; Dr. Winn, of the Academy of Medicine and Surgery; Mr. W. S. Copeland and Mr. John Stewart Bryan, of the Richmond Education Association; Dr. Greer Baughman and Dr. T. D. Merrick.

Mr. Johnson was made chairman of the meeting. Each representative was requested to suggest what sort of building would be suited to the needs of all. The responses disclosed a variety of ideas and the necessity of a definite plan. So it was decided to have a committee consider nature of hall suited to the needs of all and the ways and means of securing it and report back at as early a date as possible. The committee was named as follows: Mr. Hoen, Art Club; Mr. Meloney, Wednesday Club; Mr. Jones, Lyceum; Dr. Winn, Academy of Medicine; Mr. Copeland, the Education Association. These gentlemen will give the members of the conference the benefit of their deliberations at the meeting on Wednesday evening of next week.

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS.

They Spend the Day Electing Salaried Officers—Others To-Day.

(By Associated Press.)
NORFOLK, VA., May 28.—Both the morning and afternoon sessions of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers' convention here to-day were devoted to the election of salaried officers, with the exception of a short period during the afternoon, when a discussion relative to the legislative board of the State of New York was begun and carried over until to-morrow.

A. J. Youngman was re-elected assistant grand chief engineer. T. S. Ingraham was re-elected first grand engineer. Deloss Everett was elected third grand engineer.

At the terms of Grand Chief Arthur and Second Grand Engineer Salmons will not expire until two years hence, the election of to-day completed the filling of salaried positions. To-morrow the convention will begin balloting on the offices of first, second and third grand assistant engineer, grand guide and grand chaplain.

LADY INJURED BY A BAD FALL

Mrs. Elizabeth Redford Will Hardly Recover from Her Injuries.

Mrs. Elizabeth Redford, of No. 321 South Cherry Street, fell down the stairs at her home about 11 o'clock yesterday morning, sustaining serious and probably fatal injuries. She struck on her head with great force, fracturing the skull at the base of the brain and receiving internal injuries. Up to a late hour last night she had not returned to consciousness. Dr. R. E. Franklin was called in. He regarded her condition as slightly more favorable last night, but entertained but little hope of Mrs. Redford's recovery. The fracture of the skull was of an exceedingly serious character. Mrs. Redford's advanced age and feebleness (she is over seventy) also operates against her chances of recovery. An operation had been found to be impracticable in view of the patient's condition. For some years Mrs. Redford has lived on Cherry Street with her daughter.

Designs Placed To-Day.

The designs for the Davis arch will be taken to the Capitol to-day and put in place for exhibition. So far models have come from Mr. Storr, Mr. Gudebord, Mr. J. H. Montgomery and Mr. Cooper. The latter gentleman is expected to-day, and Mr. Gudebord is already here.

Lumber for Martinique.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
NORFOLK, VA., May 28.—The United States collier Hannibal sailed to-day for San Juan and Martinique. The Hannibal after delivering a cargo of coal at San Juan will proceed to Martinique and land 348,000 feet of lumber to be used in constructing temporary homes for the volcano sufferers. The Hannibal also has a quantity of provisions for the refugees.

PLATFORM FALLS AT STAUNTON CARNIVAL

A Number of Persons Injured. The Largest Crowd in the History of the City.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

STAUNTON, VA., May 28.—While about sixty spectators were on the platform of the wholesale house of Bowling, Spott & Company this evening watching the aerial acrobats perform, the platform gave way, falling a distance of fifteen feet to the ground.

A number were injured. Among those seriously hurt were Mrs. M. W. Bucher and Alice Lightner, of the county. Mrs. Bucher was taken to the hospital. Fifteen thousand or more attended the Carnival to-day. It was undoubtedly the largest crowd ever in Staunton.

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